

NURSING FOCUS

Official Publication of the Indiana State Board of Nursing

• July 2005 • VOLUME 1 • NUMBER 2 •



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Complaint
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Publishing Companies:
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Regarding
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Nursing Focus is published by the
Indiana State Board of Nursing
Health Professions Bureau
Indiana State Board of Nursing
Indiana Government Center South Building
402 West Washington Street, Room W066
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Edition 2

Created by **PUBLISHING CONCEPTS, INC.**

Virginia Robertson, President
vrobertson@pcipublishing.com
14109 Taylor Loop Road • Little Rock, AR 72223
501.221.9986 or 800.561.4686

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Health Professions Bureau Mission Statement

To provide professional quality support services to Indiana's health regulatory boards and committees, in furtherance of their responsibility to assure the safe and competent delivery of health care to the citizens of Indiana.

Office Location

Health Professions Bureau
Indiana State Board of Nursing
Indiana Government Center South Building
402 West Washington Street, Room W066
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Telephone Numbers

Phone (317) 234-2043

Fax (317) 233-4236

License Verifications: 888-333-7515

Website: www.hpb.IN.gov

E-mail: hpb2@hpb.IN.gov

Office Hours

Mon thru Fri

8:00-4:30

Staff

Kristen Kelley

Past Board Director

Tonja Thompson

Current Board Director

Jody Edens

Assistant Board Director

Dawn Shaffer

Case Manager

Donna Moran

Case Manager

Tina Wiseley

Case Manager

Peter Wallace

Case Manager

Kelly Radcliff

Case Manager

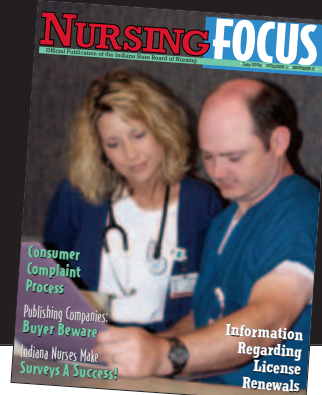
Stephanie Clark

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- September 2005
- December 2005
- March 2006
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What is the Purpose of the Indiana State Board of Nursing?



Sometimes there is confusion as to what the Board actually does.

The Nursing Board is a governmental body responsible for protecting the health and safety of the Indiana public as it relates to nursing practice. Members are appointed by the Governor for four year terms and come from various nursing backgrounds as well as different regions of the state. By law, there must be 5 Registered Nurses, 2 Licensed Practical Nurses, 1

Advanced Practice Nurse with prescriptive authority and 1 Consumer Member. 5 members of the Board make up a quorum. The Board is responsible for disciplining nurses who violate the Nurse Practice act. The Indiana Code and Rules can be found at (WWW.in.gov/hpb/boards/isbn/nursing_compilation.pdf). The Code, or IC portion of this document, is passed as part of the legislative process by your legislator. The Board has the responsibility to review, change and/or adopt new rules - or the IAC portion of this document. This is done through a prescribed public process. The Board is currently working on new rules concerning the Indiana State Nurses Assistance Program (ISNAP). There is open discussion time for public input at announced Board meetings prior to any such proposals becoming law.

The Board has the responsibility to examine, license and renew qualified applicants. A screening process for this purpose is the questionnaire all nurses complete when they apply for a license or a renewal. It asks you to answer "yes" or "no" to a series of questions concerning life situations you may have encountered since you last renewed or, for first time applicants, anytime in your past. Those must be answered honestly. If you answer "Yes" to any question, the Board may ask you for more information or appear before the Board. If requested to appear before the Board, a decision will be made concerning when/if you receive your license and if there will be any discipline against your license.

The Board spends most of its meeting times hearing cases where nurses may have violated the nurse practice act and have been reported to and investigated by the Office of the Attorney General (AG's). We become aware of such cases via news articles, and from other state boards, but our primary source is from places of employment or from other nurses. By law, it is the responsibility of all nurses to report any other nurse who has violated the nurse practice act. This may not be something you want to do but becomes important, not only for patient safety, but can become helpful to the nurse as well. This is particularly true when a nurse becomes impaired from substance abuse as we have a program that often allows such a nurse to continue to practice while being monitored by the program.

Such cases are brought before us by the AG's Office for prosecution. The hearings are held very similar to a court proceeding where arguments are heard from both parties. The nurse, or the Respondent, has the right to be represented by legal counsel and has the opportunity to present any evidence or witnesses. The hearing is then closed to further input and the Board deliberates and decides if the State has proved the nurse has violated the nurse practice act and, if so, what sanctions may be appropriate for the particular case. More information regarding this can be found in the Consumer Complaint article.

Discipline may be an important part of the Board's function but it is increasingly taking more and more of the Board's time. Another aspect of the Board's mandate is to monitor all nursing education programs in the state. This is a particularly challenging aspect in these times of shortage and will be the topic of my next article.

Mervin R. Helmuth, R.N., M.N.
Board President

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Disciplinary Actions

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Recently the general assembly passed a law that will merge Health Professions Bureau and Professional Licensing into one state agency. This law will take effect on July 1, 2005 and our official name will be Indiana Professional Licensing Agency. The licensees and general public will not be affected by this change. You may hear Professional Licensing Agency when you call our office but there will be no other noticeable differences to affect your license.

Frances Kelly, has recently been appointed by Governor Daniels to serve as Executive Director of the new Professional Licensing Agency. She was recently Chief Deputy Coroner of the Marion County Coroner's Office. Prior to that, Frances served as Board Director for the Medical Licensing Board and the Indiana Board of Pharmacy. Welcome Frances!

NEW NURSING BOARD DIRECTOR

I have recently been promoted to Deputy Director of the Health Professions Bureau. I am looking forward to new challenges but at the same time, I am sad and regretful to leave the Indiana State Board of Nursing. I thoroughly enjoyed these few years working with the Indiana Board of Nursing, National Association of State Boards of Nursing, Indiana State Board of Nursing and all of the other associations, as well as all the nurses in the State of Indiana. I feel that I have learned and accomplished a lot during my tenure with the Board.

In my new job duties, I will be responsible for helping the 24 health regulatory boards and the 17 professional licensing boards run more efficiently and effectively and assist during the transition of the 2 state agencies. I will still be working indirectly with the nursing board and will always be available for assistance. I can be reached by phone at (317) 232-2960 or by e-mail at krkelley@hpb.IN.gov

I am comfortable leaving knowing that you will all be in good hands. I am pleased to announce that my replacement will be **Tonja Thompson**. Tonja is currently the Board Director of the Indiana Health Facility

Administrators Board, Physical Therapy Board, Occupational Therapy Board and the Hypnotist Committee. She will be a great asset to the Board.

NEWSLETTER

We have received a lot of positive feedback on the first edition of the *Nursing Focus* Magazine. I received several e-mails or letters recently asking the following:

- **Who pays for the cost of the magazine?**—The magazine is published for free by Publishing Concepts and is supported solely by advertisements. Without advertisers, this would not be possible. Please support the businesses that support us, and when you do, don't forget to tell them where you saw their ad!
- **How do you get away with publishing names and license numbers of those that have been disciplined?**—All disciplinary action and license numbers are public record and are also available on our website at www.hpb.IN.gov
- **How do I get my name off the mailing list for the magazine?**—The magazine is sent to all registered nurses and practical nurses licensed in Indiana. By removing your name from the mailing list, we would have to remove your name from our database.
- **Why was my license number printed on the outside of the magazine?** That was a miscommunication between Publishing Concepts and the Board. This will be avoided on future publications.

If you have an idea for an article, please e-mail those suggestions to hpb2@hpb.IN.gov

Sincerely,

Kristen Kelley
Board Director
INDIANA STATE BOARD OF NURSING

For more information regarding your professional association contact

Indiana State Nurses Association
2915 North High School Road
Indianapolis, IN 46224
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www.indiananurses.org

Information Regarding License

Due on 10/31 of Odd Years

Registered Nurses
Prescriptive Authority for
Advanced Practice Nurses
Controlled Substance Registrations
Limited Scope Nurse Midwives

Due on 10/31 of Even Years

Licensed Practical Nurses

Paper renewals will NOT be mailed out this year. A renewal notice will be mailed 60 days prior to your expiration date. You will be able to renew online at www.hpb.IN.gov. If you prefer to renew by mail, instructions will be provided in the notice.

All renewals will be considered late and a \$50.00 late fee will be assessed if you renew online after midnight on 10/31 or if the envelope is postmarked after 10/31 by the U. S. Post Office.

All licenses expire at the same time, regardless of when they are issued. For example, if your RN license is issued June 2005, it still expires on October 2005. The same holds true for LPNs the following year.

It is very important to keep Health Professions Bureau notified of your current address at all times. Renewal notices are sent to the last address on record. You may e-mail address changes to hpb2@hpb.IN.gov. Please include your name, new address and license number.

If you wish to change your name during renewal time, you can send the copy of your legal document (marriage certificate, divorce decree, or court document) to us before you renew online so that when you receive your pocket card the correct name will appear. You can also send a copy with your paper renewal and the name change will be processed at the same time as the renewal.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR LICENSE RENEWALS



How long will it take to process my renewal if I mail it in?

Renewals will be updated within 2-3 working days after we receive the completed renewal and payment. The pocket card will be mailed twenty-four hours after it has been updated.

How long will it take to update my license if I renew on-line?

If you renew your license on-line, your expiration date will be updated within twenty-four hours after you process the on-line renewal. The pocket card will be mailed twenty-four hours after it has been updated.

What are the advantages to renewing online as opposed to sending in the application?

It is quick, efficient and there is no need for cumbersome forms or mailings.

Renewals

What happens if I answer "yes" to one of the questions on the renewal?

Your payment will be processed and a code will be placed on your license. You will be required to submit a written statement explaining your positive response. Your information will be reviewed and your license will either be renewed based on what you submitted or you will be required to make a personal appearance before the Board. The Board has 90 days in which to act upon a renewal application with a positive response.

If I answer yes on my renewal and it hasn't been approved by 10/31 will I be able to work?

Yes, you will be sent a letter that

states that you are able to practice while your license is being investigated during that 90-day period.

My place of employment states they are going to terminate employment on any nurse that doesn't have his/her renewed pocket card in hand two (2) weeks before the expiration date of 10/31/05. Can they do this?

The State Board of Nursing does not regulate facility policies. You would need to talk with your facility's personnel director. As long as your license is updated by 10/31/05, you are considered to have a valid license to practice.

I did not get information concerning the renewal of my

license. Do I still have to pay the late fee?

Yes, all practitioners that renew after 10/31 are required to pay the \$50.00 late fee. It is your responsibility to make sure you renew your license on time. Therefore, it is imperative that you keep the Board apprised of your current address at all times. You can renew on line for the \$50.00 fee right up until midnight on 10/31.

I have an RN license and Prescriptive Authority as an Advanced Practice Nurse. Will I get a renewal for each type?

Yes, there is a separate renewal application for your RN license, one for your prescriptive authority

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and one for your CSR. The Controlled Substance Registration renewal notice will be sent to your practice location. If you renew online you will also need to make sure you renew all types separately.

How can I put my license on Inactive Status?

Indiana does not offer Inactive status. Your only options are to renew or let your license expire.

If I allow my license to expire can I renew it at a later time or do I have to take the examination again?

Yes, you will be able to renew your existing license. You will be required to complete a renewal application and pay the current renewal fee plus the current late fee. At this time, the law does not require you to retake the examination.

Am I required to obtain continuing education?

Continuing education is not required for Registered Nurses or Licensed Practical Nurses. Continuing education is required for Advanced Practice Nurses with prescriptive authority.

I don't feel comfortable giving out my credit card information over the Internet. Is it safe?

Our website uses state of the art security technology so that the information is readable only by the intended recipient. Using your credit card to renew your license online is safer than using your credit card in a restaurant or retail shop.

I have tried to renew online and I got an error message that indicates I don't have a license to renew. Help, I know I am licensed what do I do?

If you get the message that you don't have a license, it means that one of the following things has happened:

- a) You forgot to put the "A" at the end of your license number

- b) We do not have your social security number on our records correctly. It is possible that we have it typed incorrectly or that we do not have it on file at all.

To correct this, first try the "A" at the end of your license number. If this doesn't work, please call us to check on your social security number. Call the nursing group at (317) 234-2043.

Can I send in a check with my renewal application or must it be a money order?

You may send it a personal check or money order with your renewal application. Please remember to put your license number on your check or money order. Please do not mail the fee without the renewal application.

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The following rules went into effect April 16, 2005

848 IAC 1-1-6 Licensure by examination

Authority: IC 25-23-1-7

Affected: IC 25-23-1-11; IC 25-23-1-12

- Sec. 6.** (a) Any person who makes application to the board for a license shall submit to the board written evidence, verified by oath, that the registered nurse applicant meets the requirements of IC 25-23-1-11 and the licensed practical nurse applicant meets the requirements of IC 25-23-1-12.
- (b) A copy of a marriage certificate or court order shall be submitted by a candidate who wishes to change her or his name after the application is filed.
- (c) Candidates shall present the authorization to test and a photo identification for entrance to the testing center.
- (d) The required Indiana passing criteria for the licensure examination is set by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing using the computerized adaptive testing methodology.
- (e) An applicant may take the examination at any testing center in the United States approved by the National Council for State Boards of Nursing. An authorization to test must be provided by the Indiana board before testing.
- (f) Graduates of foreign schools of nursing shall meet the following qualifications before being licensed in Indiana:
- (1) Be licensed in the territory or country in which they graduated.
 - (2) Meet the qualifications required in Indiana as determined by the board.
 - (3) Obtain the official records from the territory or country in which the applicant graduated verifying academic qualifications or be referred to state accredited nursing programs to establish the necessary credits if the original records are unobtainable.
 - (4) Show evidence of having passed the examination prepared by the commission on graduates of foreign nursing schools.
 - (5) Pass the appropriate nurse licensing examination in Indiana.
- (g) Requirements for unsuccessful candidates are as follows:
- (1) Any candidate who fails the Indiana licensing examination shall not be licensed until she or he has passed the licensing examination.
 - (2) A complete application shall be submitted each time an examination is taken.
 - (3) The full examination fee shall be charged for each reexamination.
 - (4) A candidate who has failed the licensing examination (in any jurisdiction) should undertake a special study program before retaking the examination. This study program may include one (1) or all of the following:
 - (A) Auditing nursing courses at an approved program in nursing.
 - (B) A self-study program, such as review of course work or professional reading.
 - (C) Tutoring.
 - (D) Reenrollment in a state-accredited program of nursing.
 - (h) Written informed consent from the candidate is necessary before individual licensing examination scores are released to any one other than the candidate.
 - (i) Candidates applying for the practical nursing licensing examination shall be required to meet the board's curricular requirements for the program in practical nursing as stated in the rules in effect at the time of their graduation. Candidates applying for the registered nursing licensing examination shall be required to meet the board's curricular requirements for the program in registered nursing as stated in the rules in effect at the time of their graduation. (*Indiana State Board of Nursing; Reg 6; filed Mar 1, 1978, 8:51 a.m.; Rules and Regs. 1979, p. 162; filed Mar 18, 1980, 4:00 p.m.: 3 IR 961; filed Feb 18, 1982, 2:18 p.m.: 5 IR 735; filed Mar 29, 1985, 10:43 a.m.: 8 IR 1026; filed Sep 12, 1985, 3:27 p.m.: 9 IR 287; readopted filed Nov 21, 2001,*

10:23 a.m.: 25 IR 1326; filed Jun 23, 2003, 4:12 p.m.: 26 IR 3653, eff Jul 1, 2003 [IC 4-22-2-36 suspends the effectiveness of a rule document for thirty (30) days after filing with the secretary of state. LSA Document #02-247 was filed Jun 23, 2003.]; filed Mar 16, 2005, 11:50 a.m.: 28 IR 2383)

848 IAC 1-1-7 Licensure by endorsement

Authority: IC 25-23-1-7

Affected: IC 25-23-1-11; IC 25-23-1-12

- Sec. 7.** (a) An applicant for licensure as a practical nurse who was originally licensed by the National Council Licensing Examination (NCLEX®) or the State Board Test Pool Examination (SBTPE) in another jurisdiction will be accepted for registration in Indiana by endorsement from the board that granted the original license if the applicant meets the following qualifications:
- (1) Is of good moral character.
 - (2) Has graduated from:
 - (A) high school or the equivalent thereof; and
 - (B) a state approved program in practical nursing.
- (b) An applicant for licensure as a registered nurse who was originally licensed by the NCLEX® or the SBTPE in another jurisdiction will be accepted for registration in Indiana by endorsement from the board that granted the original license if the applicant meets the following qualifications:
- (1) Is of good moral character.
 - (2) Has graduated from:
 - (A) high school or the equivalent thereof; and
 - (B) a state approved program in registered nursing.
- (c) Applicants who are graduates of foreign schools of nursing are eligible for Indiana practical nursing licensure by endorsement provided that the following conditions are met:
- (1) Have:
 - (A) written and passed the NCLEX® or the SBTPE in another jurisdiction or country; and
 - (B) achieved Indiana's passing scores in all areas.
 - (2) Submit:
 - (A) copies of all scholastic records; and
 - (B) proof of:
 - (i) good moral character;

- (ii) high school graduation or equivalent thereof; and
 - (iii) having graduated from a program that meets the board's curricular requirements for a program in practical nursing as stated in the rules in effect at the time of their graduation with concurrent theory and clinical experience in all areas.

- (d) Applicants who are graduates of foreign schools of nursing are eligible for Indiana registered nursing licensure by endorsement provided that the following conditions are met:

- (1) Have:
 - (A) written and passed the NCLEX® or the SBTPE in another jurisdiction or country;
 - (B) achieved Indiana's passing scores in all areas; and
 - (C) licensure in another jurisdiction.
- (2) Submit:
 - (A) copies of all scholastic records; and
 - (B) proof of:
 - (i) good moral character;
 - (ii) high school graduation or equivalent thereof; and
 - (iii) having graduated from a program that meets the board's curricular requirements for a program in registered nursing as stated in the rules in effect at the time of their graduation with concurrent theory and clinical experience in all areas.

- (e) The completed application accompanied by the fee, photograph, and proof of current licensure in another jurisdiction shall be submitted to the Indiana board of nursing. The fee is nonrefundable. (*Indiana State Board of Nursing; Reg 7; filed Mar 1, 1978, 8:51 a.m.: Rules and Regs. 1979, p. 165; filed Mar 18, 1980, 4:00 p.m.: 3 IR 963; filed Mar 29, 1985, 10:43 a.m.: 8 IR 1028; readopted filed Nov 21, 2001, 10:23 a.m.: 25 IR 1327; filed Jun 23, 2003, 4:12 p.m.: 26 IR 3654, eff Jul 1, 2003 [IC 4-22-2-36 suspends the effectiveness of a rule document for thirty (30) days after filing with the secretary of state. LSA Document #02-247 was filed Jun 23, 2003.]; filed Mar 16, 2005, 11:50 a.m.: 28 IR 2384)*)

848 IAC 6 was repealed



St. Francis—

St. Francis Hospital & Health Centers, founded in 1914 by the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration, is one of the largest health care systems in Indiana, with main facilities in Beech Grove, Indianapolis and Mooresville. St. Francis Hospital is part of a network of 12 growing hospital campuses in Indiana and Illinois owned and operated by the Sisters of St. Francis Health Services, Inc., headquartered in Mishawaka, IN.



St. Francis—By the Numbers:

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Admissions	22,714
Outpatient visits	724,448
Emergency Room visits	61,700 (+18,380 PromptMed visits)
Deliveries	3,124
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All campuses, reflecting 2003 statistics

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While we are proud of the accomplishments that these honors reflect, we are humbled by the opportunities we are presented to serve our patients and families. Thousands of people turn to St. Francis for hospital care, and we are grateful for the trust they've placed in us.

Growing to serve

Over our 91 year history, St. Francis has responded to the needs of the community by providing the latest health care technologies and facilities.

The past 12 months have seen our campuses expand to make sure that the best possible services are available for patients and their families. At our Indianapolis campus, we opened the doors in March 2005 on our



A Tradition of Caring

brand-new Cardiac & Vascular Care Center. This state-of-the-art, 106-bed facility houses complete diagnostic, medical and surgical services for cardiac and vascular patients.

In May of this year, the St. Francis Chest Pain Evaluation Center earned accreditation by the Society of Chest Pain Centers, following a rigorous review process. We are one of only five centers in Indiana to have received this accreditation.

Construction is underway on an expanded Cancer Care Center, also at our Indianapolis campus, devoting more space to the care and treatment of our medical and radiation oncology patients.

Renovations and expansions elsewhere on the Indianapolis campus are nearing completion, providing upgraded service environments for Emergency and Women's & Children's services.

A Career and a Calling

We know that being a nurse is not something that someone decides on the spur of the moment one day when they roll out of bed. Nursing is as much a philosophy or a way of life as it is a noble profession. We highly value the contributions, commitment and compassion that our nurses offer on a daily basis, and we offer an environment where nurses can grow, learn and – most importantly -- make an impact.

St. Francis is seeking highly skilled, deeply caring nurses who want to make a difference in the lives of those we are privileged to serve. Patients and their family members are at their most vulnerable when they come to us for care. By caring for them as people we fulfill our mission of Continuing Christ's Ministry.

But it takes special people to provide special care. If you're a critical care nurse with outstanding skills matched only by your passion for caring, consider St. Francis. The following openings are now available:



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• Renal Dialysis Unit RN	• Intensive Care Unit RN
• Inpatient Rehab Unit Manager	• Surgical Intensive Care Unit RN
• Progressive Care Unit RN	• Surgical Progressive Care Unit RN
• Intensive Care Unit RN	• Medical Progressive Care Unit RN
	• Cardiac Cath Lab Unit Manager
	• Surgical Progressive Care Unit Manager

Ready to make the move to the next level of nursing?

Visit our website at www.stfranchishospitals.org and click on "Careers at St. Francis." Feel free to send us an e-mail with your resume to: sfjobs@ssfhs.org.

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Consumer Complaint Process

The function of the Medical Licensing Section of the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) is to investigate consumer complaints against licensed health professionals to determine whether a violation of a licensing statute or regulation has occurred. If sufficient evidence of a violation exists, the Attorney General will prosecute the matter before the appropriate health professional board. The OAG receives hundreds of new complaints involving nurses each year.

The Medical Licensing Section is part of the Consumer Protection Division of the Attorney General's Office and was granted authority in 1981 to investigate and prosecute complaints filed with the office involving the twenty-one health boards and committees, including the Indiana State Board of Nursing (ISBN) under IC § 25-1-7-2. There are currently twenty-five employees working within the Medical Licensing Section, consisting of the section chief, deputy attorney generals, medical analysts, complaint analysts, law clerks and support staff. This team of dedicated and hard working individuals is committed to upholding the section's Mission Statement:

"To protect the consumers of Indiana in a fair and efficient manner through the investigation and analysis and prosecution of complaints filed against licensed health professionals."

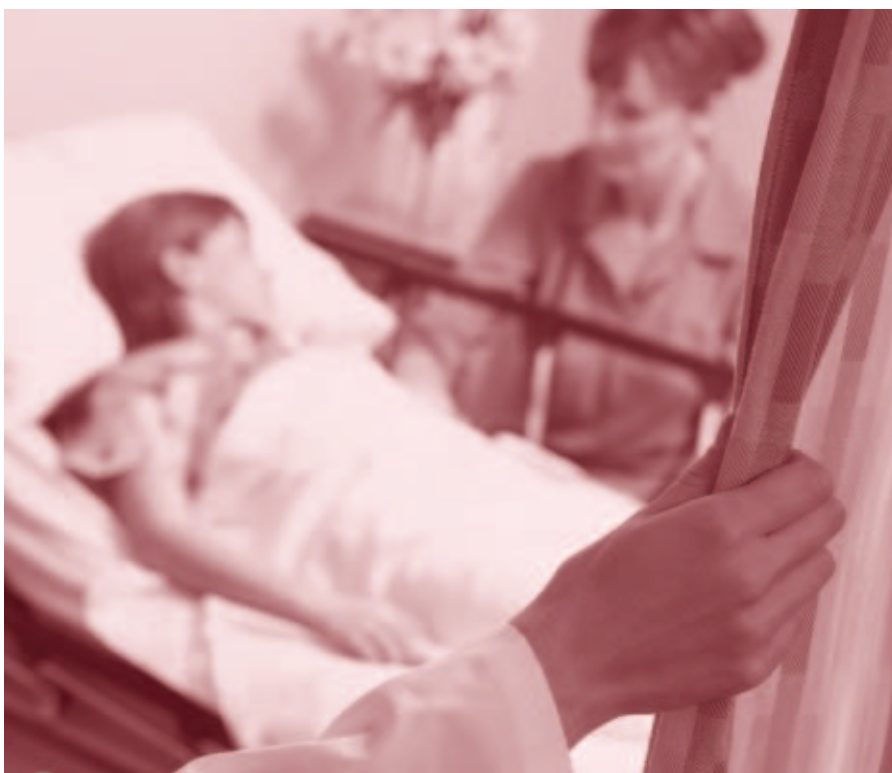
According to IC § 25-1-7-4, all complaints must be written and signed by the complainant and initially filed with the office. Except for employees of the OAG acting in their official capacity, a complaint may be filed by any person, including members of

any of the boards. Complaints against licensed health professionals, including Licensed Practical Nurses, Registered Nurses and Advanced Practice Nurses, can be filed by employees of any state agency, hospital, nursing homes and concerned consumers.

The complaints can be filed using various resources such as Attorney General Steve Carter's website: <http://www.in.gov/attorneygeneral/> and downloading a complaint form to complete and mail in or submit it online. Use of an official complaint form is not necessary, as any information submitted to the address below and signed by the complainant with the intent to file a complaint will be accepted and screened. If a complaint is emailed, a written complaint form will be mailed back to the complainant for signature, to continue the investigation.

The complaints are approved for processing, after which an opening letter is sent to the complainant and the licensee. The licensee receives with their opening letter, a copy of the complaint as received by the OAG and is requested to respond to the allegations presented in the complaint. The opening letter to the complainant requests any further documentation to be submitted that supports the allegations made in the complaint. The OAG database is searched to determine whether the licensee has any old or pending complaints which may be pertinent to the investigation of the new complaint. If so, old complaints may be reopened. No statute of limitations exists for prosecutions of disciplinary violations against licensed health professions.

The analyst assigned to the



investigation proceeds with gathering pertinent information to complete the file. IC § 25-1-7-5(5) provides the OAG with the power to subpoena witnesses and to send for and compel the production of books, records, papers, and documents for the furtherance of the investigation. Documents commonly subpoenaed include employment records, medical records, criminal documents and other vital pieces of information to provide the complete picture for the analyst to base their analysis upon.

Pursuant to Indiana Code § 25-23-1-31, the ISBN has established the Indiana State Nurses Assistance Program (ISNAP), a recovery-monitoring program for

Registered and Licensed Practical Nurses who suffer from a chemical dependence. Under the policies of the ISBN, a nurse who qualifies for the program and signs a recovery-monitoring agreement with ISNAP in a timely manner may avoid disciplinary action before ISBN. The OAG often receives complaints against nurses containing allegations of drug diversion and/or substance abuse. The OAG has established a relationship with ISNAP in order to refer nurses involved in this type of activity to ISNAP immediately. The opening letter will inform the nurse of the opportunity, that she must contact ISNAP within five days, and that if she is deemed to qualify for the

program, she must sign a Recovery Monitoring Agreement with ISNAP.

All consumer complaints filed with the OAG are held in confidence through IC § 25-1-7-10. This statute prevents the OAG from disclosing any information concerning an investigation of a nurse until the OAG has filed an administrative complaint against the licensee with the ISBN. If an administrative complaint filed with the ISBN, then the information becomes public and available through the ISBN director.

Once all of the information has been gathered, the file is ready to be analyzed. The purpose of the analysis phase is to review the alleged licensing violations,

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licensee's response, subpoenaed information, relevant licensing statutes, rules and regulations, and past complaint allegations, if relevant. The analyst will make a determination as to whether or not the licensee has violated their license. If the information does lead the analyst, board designee and section chief to the

conclusion that the licensee has violated their license, then the deputy attorney general will file an administrative complaint against the licensee's license.

If there is not enough evidence to convince the analyst, board designee and section chief that the licensee has violated their license, then the file will be

closed, the complainant and licensee will be notified, and the file will remain confidential with the OAG. Closed files may be reopened in the future if there is new evidence that was not available at the time of the original investigation, since there is no statute of limitations for medical investigation files to be prosecuted by the OAG.

Consumer complaints that are found to have licensing violations develop into litigation files and will appear on the ISBN agenda after an administrative complaint has been filed with the board director. In a fashion that is similar to civil court proceedings and governed by the trial rules, the case is presented by a deputy attorney general before the ISBN or an appointed administrative law judge. The licensee is sent notification of this hearing to have the opportunity to defend themselves against the violations identified by the OAG's administrative complaint. The licensee also has an opportunity to ask for a settlement. If no settlement can be reached, the case will be heard. After hearing each party's side, the ISBN will then issue its ruling after taking a vote.

In summary, the OAG protects the public health and safety of every Hoosier through the investigation of each complaint filed. The OAG also works hard to protect the reputation of licensed health professionals who have had unsubstantiated complaints filed against them by investigating those complaints thoroughly and closing them as expeditiously as possible.

Office of the Attorney General
Steve Carter
Medical Licensing Section
Indiana Government Center
South, Fifth Floor
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To become part of the Riverview family, apply online at www.riverview.org. Or come by our Human Resources offices. We're located at 395 Westfield Road in Noblesville. For more information, contact Anita Lingenfelter, RN - Nurse Recruiter at **317.770.2991**. EOE

Publishing Companies: Buyer Beware

The Board often receives phone calls from nurses who have seen an advertisement or brochure to attend a seminar sponsored by a for-profit publishing company, who may provide study materials or test out options for nursing programs. These companies often claim that a nurse utilizing their company's materials and services may obtain a nursing degree from a particular nursing program. Many of them lead you to believe that **the publishing company** will be offering the diploma.

They may insinuate that this is a necessary step to complete the nursing program. Nursing programs cannot mandate that you use these publishing companies and I would caution anyone who is pressured into doing this or is requested to submit a down payment, as it is usually non-refundable.

All candidates who apply to take the NCLEX® exam for licensure must graduate from an approved program. Out-of-state nursing programs must be approved by the nursing board in that state.

To protect yourself, ask these questions before considering such advertisements:

1. Is the publishing company really an affiliate of an approved nursing program?
2. Will the courses a company provides;
 - a. Transfer directly to that accredited nursing program?
 - b. Transfer to any accredited nursing program?
 - c. Cost you extra to get "cred-

it" for the course at any affiliated program?

- d. Require extra testing before an affiliated program will except the course for "credit"?
3. What is the program of study, and what are the pre-requisite courses?
4. What is the cost? Does the program offer governmental financial student aide?
5. What is the cancellation policy?

I do applaud and encourage any nurse who has a desire to have an advanced degree. Many have had to work, take care of family, and go to school at the same time. I would encourage you to contact your local nursing program to see what they may be able to offer you. These dedicated Indiana programs are constantly seeking

innovative ways to increase student options within their own programs. All approved Indiana programs are listed on our website at <http://www.in.gov/hpb/boards/isbn/>

Excelsior College

Completion of the Excelsior College of the University of the State of New York nursing degree program currently satisfies the educational requirement that is required for professional nurse licensure in Indiana. Be advised that a number of companies offer products/ services for use by individuals who plan to enroll in an Excelsior College nursing education program. Prior to entering into an agreement with one of these companies it may be beneficial to obtain information about the nursing education program directly from Excelsior College at 1-888-647-2388 Ext. 27.





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Indiana Nurses Make Surveys A Success!

Since 1997, the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) and the Indiana Health Professions Bureau (HPB) have collaborated in surveying selected groups of health care professionals to help detect shortages and distribution problems throughout the state. The surveys have been attached to the Health Professions Bureau license renewal. In recent years, surveys have asked whether professionals are interested in volunteering in case of a public health emergency. To date, every professional group surveyed has provided a significant positive response.

Because nurses are a crucial part of the health care system, registered nurses (RNs) were one of the first groups surveyed in 1997, and they were surveyed again in 2001. Thanks to the excellent participation of Indiana-licensed RNs, the 1997 and the 2001 surveys provided a wealth of aggregate data on the nursing profession in Indiana. The results may be viewed on the ISDH website at <http://www.in.gov/isdh/publications/97nurse/toc.htm> and <http://www.in.gov/isdh/publications/01nurse/toc.htm>.

In 2003, the HPB initiated a new chapter in license renewal and survey administration. The HPB introduced the option of electronic license renewal, and also collaborated with the ISDH to attach an electronic survey to

the electronic e-renewal. RNs responded in substantial numbers to both innovations. Over 71 percent of all RNs renewed their license electronically, and 93 percent of those who renewed electronically chose to respond to the electronic survey. This represents approximately 2/3rds of the overall Indiana-

licensed RN population, and it is expected that response rates will improve in the future. Over 46 percent of those RNs who responded to the e-survey stated their willingness to be involved in public health preparedness efforts. Now THAT'S a response!

In 2004, the ISDH and the HPB



collaborated in the first ever survey of Indiana-licensed LPNs. As with the RNs, the survey was attached only to the electronic renewal, and therefore only those LPNs who renewed their license electronically had the opportunity to respond. These data are still

being analyzed, and a snapshot of response rates should be available by the end of June.

The ISDH and the HPB are extremely grateful to those RNs and LPNs who have helped to make the survey effort a success, and special thanks goes to

the almost 22,000 RNs who volunteered to help in public health preparedness efforts!

A survey will also be attached to the online RN renewal this fall. The renewal will NOT be available in paper format. Be counted and renew online!

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Nurses to watch

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The Indiana State Board of Nursing has been informed that a white female with blond hair has stolen the identity/license of Patricia Ann (Hutchinson) Pullin. The license number is 28111067A and the last known address of the impersonator is 605 Dogwood Street SW, Demotte, Indiana 46310. If you come in contact with this person, please call the Board immediately for further direction.

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27033675A Lianne K Arnholt Sluss
27033709A Tamara Lynn Bishop
27038734A Tiawiana M Blackwell
27023906A Dianne Lynn Bloom
27032298A Linda Marie Bronson
27021675A Doris May Burroughs
27038002A Sharon Lee Calvert
27033776A Julie Diane Comer
27029510A Virginia Latanya Cox
27030622A Roxann Rita Davis
27041679A Teresa Ann Didion
27040533A Jennifer M Endris
27044378A LaRaina Suzette Gains
27033088A Sherry Lynn Greentree
27002621A Dorothy J Harris
27029442A Douglas Dewitt Harry
27014248A Linda Irene Janes
27027770A Audrey Sue Kausal
27037576A June Carroll Lotti
27005424A Brenda Jo Matlock
27044824A Patricia Rose McClanhan
27023453A Frances M Nix
27035281A Gina Marie O'Guinn
27022151A Diane Helen Patrick
27042895A Shauntel Yvonne Peak
27004025A John Joseph Peko

Pending App Kimberly Kay Pritchett
Pending App Altina K Read
27004407A Mary Jeanette Smith
27047980A Tony Nathaniel Smith
27036944A E Jane Spinney
27032836A Rachelle Elaine Thomas
27049222A Serica D Tucker
27017647A Frances Jean Willard
27010476A Virginia Lee Williams
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28113061A Melissa R Brown
28127792A Carrie Ann Buck
28111829A Julie Dawn Carmichael
28123069A Aaron Darnell Christopher
28116046A Larry A Cleveland
28118678A Guynel Rae Collett
28074329A Rebecca Jane Cook
28145675A Christina Elaina DeMeis
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28056179A Diane Kay Freedman
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28099919A Tamara Jean Griffey
28100978A Kimberly Essom Haelen
28155445A Naomi Sue Hardin
28133974A Kimberly Deeann Heinold

28106573A Lora Leah Henry
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28115257A Ronald Edward Jodziewicz
28045347A Mary Louise Keppel
28130233A Clara Lahey Plantz
28096640A David Edouard Lawson
28114543A Michelle Ann Lemiesz
28111727A Vickie Lorraine Matheis
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28118062A Dawn Marie Meland
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28082574A Barbara Jean Robinson
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28012120A Frances Darr Smith
28121780A Paula Jo Snow
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28118904A Elizabeth Jane Sullivan
28101683A Donna Marie Szabo
28108055A Luch Alice Talley
28058856A Paul Edward Thornton
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28099864A Angela Louise Turpin

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Please mail completed form to:
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Bureau, 402 West Washington Street,
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46204. Address changes may also
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Disciplinary Actions

Indefinite Suspension—Indefinitely prohibited from practicing for a specified minimum period of time.

Indefinite Probation—License is placed on probation for a specified minimum period of time with terms and conditions.

Renewal Denied—The license was not renewed therefore, she/he does not have a license to practice in Indiana.

Summary Suspension—Immediate threat to the public

health and safety should they be allowed to continue to practice. Issued for a period of ninety (90) days but can be renewed with Board approval.

Letter of Reprimand—Letter issued by the Board to the nurse indicating that what she/he did was wrong.

Notice of Proposed Default—Notice of last opportunity to appear before the Board for a hearing.

Discipline for the previous quarter will be printed in each magazine addition in the future. Changes may occur before printing so the most accurate discipline information should be obtained on the license search feature of our website at www.hpb.IN.gov

March 17, 2005 Meeting

NAME	License Number	Board Action Taken
Personal Appearances		
Herbert Lloyd Turner, RN	28128680A	Renewed on Agreed Indefinite Probation
Administrative Hearings		
Marilyn Nadine Anders, LPN	27021618A	License Revoked by Agreement
Suzanne Bailey, LPN	27039794A	Summary Suspension
Terri Lynn (Gee) Brooks, LPN	27033891A	Notice of Proposed Default
Etta Marie Carpenter, LPN	27044275A	Notice of Proposed Default
Amy Doris Carroll, LPN	27033756A	Summary Suspension Renewal & Notice of Proposed Default
Lori Rene Crawford, LPN	27053540A	Summary Suspension Renewal
Doreen L. Degryse, LPN	27026519A	Held in Default, Indefinite Suspension & \$250 Fine
Dana Rochelle Duke, RN	28139811A	Indefinite Probation, \$250 Fine & CEU's
Erin B. Dunakin, LPN	27046596A	Agreed Indefinite Probation
James M. Franklin, RN, NP	28135849A&71001453A/B	Summary Suspension Renewal & Notice of Proposed Default
Barbara Joy Garcia, LPN	27019626A	Summary Suspension Renewal & Notice of Proposed Default
Timothy P. Geise, LPN	27025491A	Summary Suspension
Ellen Lee Glyshaw, LPN	27030454A	Agreed Indefinite Probation & CEU's
Christy Ann Grose, RN	28132947A	Agreed Indefinite Probation, Letter of Reprimand & CEU's
Robin Kay Henry, LPN	27025696A	Summary Suspension Renewal
Sylvia Jo Hunter, LPN	27042389A	Summary Suspension Renewal & Notice of Proposed Default
Margaret J. Isaacs, LPN	27036168A	Agreed Letter of Reprimand, \$250 Fine & CEU's
Cheri Suzanne Jewell, RN	28072892A	Notice of Proposed Default
Yvonne Kerkes-Woods, LPN	27050229A	Summary Suspension Renewal
Caroline Lee Kimble, RN	28048342A	Held in Default, Indefinite Suspension
Stacey Sue Long, RN	28144896A	Summary Suspension Renewal
Andrea Kay Lowden, RN	28138021A	Summary Suspension & Notice of Proposed Default
Dane Charles Meyer, RN	28150975A	Probation Withdrawn
Lorry W. Nester, RN	28106870A	Summary Suspension Renewal
Robert David Newland, LPN, RN	27043088A&28154176A	Agreed Indefinite Probation, \$500 Fine & CEU's
Joy Marie Phillips, LPN	27041949A	Summary Suspension
Deborah Ann Pinkham, RN	28139832A	Summary Suspension Renewal
Wayne Frederick Poland, RN	28131303A	Summary Suspension Renewal
Pamela B. Ritchie, LPN	27042897A	Notice of Proposed Default
Patrick Allen Sheldon, LPN	27052076A	Held in Default, Indefinite Suspension & \$250 Fine
Heather R. Simbeck, LPN	27043092A	Notice of Proposed Default
Corrie Ann Skinner, LPN	27047723A	Indefinite Probation, Letter of Reprimand & \$250 Fine
Barbara Snodgress, RN	28114992A	Summary Suspension
Colleen S. Sortore, RN	28136937A	Summary Suspension
Marla J. Thompson, RN	28135683A	Summary Suspension & Notice of Proposed Default
Deltona Tibbets-Figliola, RN	28157832A	Summary Suspension Renewal
Mark Alan Tucker, RN	28121892A	Held in Default, Indefinite Suspension & \$250 Fine
Laura Marie Walter, RN	28134452A	Held in Default, Indefinite Suspension & \$250 Fine
Linda Marie Wedlocher, RN	28131303A	Notice of Proposed Default
Laura S. Williams, RN	28154549A	Summary Suspension
Tamara Lyn Wooten, RN	28087410A	Summary Suspension
Carmen Lyn Yarber, LPN	27038846A	Summary Suspension
Diana Lynn Yates, LPN	27029290A	Renewed on Agreed Indefinite Probation

continued on next page

April 21, 2005 Meeting

NAME	License Number	Board Action Taken
Personal Appearances		
Gidget Sue Ferdon, RN	28135257A	Renewed on Agreed Indefinite Probation
Administrative Hearings		
Kathy Ann Adams, LPN	27046990A	Agreed Letter of Reprimand & \$250 Fine
Crystal Louise Agee, LPN, RN	27042888A & 28148543A	Summary Suspension Renewal & Notice of Proposed Default
Pamela Gayle Boylls, LPN	27018694A	Summary Suspension
Terri Lynn Brooks, LPN	27033891A	Held in Default, Indefinite Suspension & \$250 Fine
Calvin Earl Brown, RN	28088019A	Summary Suspension
Deborah K. Burton, RN	28096041A	Summary Suspension
Etta Marie Carpenter, LPN	27044275A	Held in Default, Indefinite Suspension
Lynn Marie Carrillo, LPN	27043222A	Agreed Indefinite Probation
Jana Lynn Cauthen, LPN	27051679A	Summary Suspension
Jody Lynn George Chaplin, LPN	27035544A	Notice of Proposed Default
Gwendolyn T. Craven, RN	28156434A	Agreed Indefinite Probation
Shawn Rana Dickerson, RN	28131563A	\$250 Fine
Allison Ruth Ditmer, RN, LPN	28131264A & 27028263A	Held in Default, Indefinite Suspension
Lori Ann Geiselman Dublack, RN	28121653A	Agreed Indefinite Suspension 6 months, Indefinite Probation & \$500 Fine
Constance L. Emerson, LPN	27027357A	Indefinite Suspension
John Bennett Evans, RN	28136553A	Reinstated on Indefinite Probation
James M. Franklin, RN, NP	28135849A & 71001453A/B	Held in Default, Indefinite Suspension & \$250 Fine
Barbara Joy Garcia, LPN	27019626A	Held in Default, Indefinite Suspension & \$1,000 Fine
Linda Ruth Garner, LPN	27016079A	Reinstated on Indefinite Probation
Rebecca Sue Graham, RN	28109567A	Summary Suspension, Notice of Proposed Default
Shay Annette Grimes, LPN	27044393A	Summary Suspension
Stacy Jo Hagadorn, LPN	27046977A	Indefinite Probation & CEU's
Angela Darnetta Hayes, LPN	27023633A	\$250 Fine
Karen L. Henrich, LPN	27043800A	\$250 Fine
Holly Jean Hopkins, RN	28142857A	Summary Suspension Renewal & Notice of Proposed Default
Karen Anne Jessie, LPN	27032717A	Probation Withdrawn
Cheri Suzanne Jewell, RN	28072892A	Held in Default, Indefinite Suspension & \$500 Fine
Tammy Renee Wiley Kimbrough, LPN	27044805A	Notice of Proposed Default
Luis R. Linares, LPN	27042988A	Notice of Proposed Default & Summary Suspension
Beverly Jean Loper, RN	28044733A	Held in Default, Indefinite Suspension, CEU's & \$500 Fine
Rita Sue Nevitt, RN	28076802A	Letter of Reprimand & \$250 Fine
Laurie C. Romano, RN	28091592A	Held in Default, Indefinite Suspension \$ 250 Fine
Consandra E. Royster, LPN	27046592A	Summary Suspension
David L. Shafer, RN	28162310A	Summary Suspension
Heather R. Simbeck, LPN	27043092A	Held in Default, Indefinite Suspension & 500 Fine
Jo Ann Sims, LPN	27047686S	Agreed Indefinite Probation, CEU's & \$250 Fine
Mary J. Spaulding, RN	28092009A	Summary Suspension
Constance L. Spencer, RN, LPN	28052598A & 27017038A	Notice of Proposed Default
Tara Lynn Spychalski, LPN	27043219A	Notice of Proposed Default & Summary Suspension
Tamara Sue Stockdale, LPN	27039419A	Notice of Proposed Default
Janian Kunicki Stygar, LPN	27043062A	Agreed Revocation of License
William George Thorpe, RN	28056210A	Held in Default, Indefinite Suspension & \$500 Fine
Mary Elise Van Polanen, RN	28139732A	Held in Default
Mary Ellen Venable, RN	28098522A	Reinstated on Indefinite Probation
Sandra Waible, LPN	27038609A	Notice of Proposed Default & Summary Suspension
Julie Ann Walton, LPN	27023659A	Agreed Summary Suspension
Agnes Helen Webster, LPN	27018066A	Held in Default, Indefinite Suspension & \$250 Fine
Linda Marie Wiedlocher, RN	28056324A	Held in Default & Indefinite Suspension
Marion Lee Willis, LPN	27040612A	Summary Suspension



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